

Message Text

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SUBJ: ZAMBIAN EDITORIAL REACTION TO SAG AGGRESSION

REF: LUSAKA 1847

SUMMARY: IN EDITORIAL OF JULY 17 ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL EXPLORED SAG MOTIVATION FOR ITS MILITARY ACTION AGAINST ZAMBIA (REFTEL), SOUNDED THREATENING NOTE THAT SOUTH AFRICA RUNNING RISK THAT WILD MEN IN ITS ARMY MAY SOON START A FIRE THEY WILL FIND DIFFICULT TO EXTINGUISH, CALLED ON SAG TO TAKE STOCK OF ITS POSITION IN WORLD WHERE IT NO LONGER HAS SUPPORT IT ONCE DID AND MADE GENERAL, BUT FAVORABLE REFERENCES TO U.S. EROSION OF PREVIOUS SUPPORT ILLUSTRATED BY CURRENT U.S. POLICY, CONDITIONED BY DOMESTIC SENTIMENTS, TOWARDS SOUTH AFRICA. THIS POLICY WILL DENY ASSISTANCE TO SOUTH AFRICA IF IT ENGAGES IN WAR TO PROTECT RACISM. END SUMMARY

2. JULY 17 EDITORIAL IN ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL LEADS OFF WITH PRAISE FOR GRZ S DECISION TO RAISE ISSUE OF SOUTH AFRICAN AGGRESSION AGAINST ZAMBIA IN U.N. IT THEN EXPLORES MOTIVATION FOR SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY ACTION, POSITING THAT IT MIGHT BE DESIGNED TO DETRACT ATTENTION FROM SOUTH AFRICA S INTERNAL PROBLEMS IN POST-SOWETO PERIOD. IF THIS CASE, THEN IT INCUMBENT ON ZAMBIA UNCLASSIFIED

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TO MAKE WHOLE WORLD AWARE OF NUMEROUS ACTS OF UNJUSTIFIABLE

SOUTH AFRICAN AGGRESSION AGAINST ZAMBIA.

2. UPPING DECIBEL LEVEL, EDITORIAL WARNS IF VORSTER GOVERNMENT URGES ITS MILITARY INTO FOOLISH MILITARY ADVENTURES THEY MAY SOON FIND A FIRE STARTED WHICH WILL BE DIFFICULT TO EXTINGUISH. VORSTER IS ADMONISHED THAT SUCH ATTACKS ON COUNTRIES LIKE ZAMBIA MAY BE THE SUREST AND QUICKEST WAY OF ENDING NOT ONLY WHITE RACISM, BUT ALSO WHITE MAJORITY RULE IN AFRICA. WIDER WORLD IS CAUTIONED THAT IF ACHIEVEMENT OF MAJORITY RULE COMES ONLY WHEN PEOPLE OF AFRICA EMBITTERED AGAINST WHITES, CONSEQUENCES FOR WHITES WILL BE TOO FRIGHTENING FOR ALL CONCERNED. LESS CLEAR IS THREAT CONTAINED IN EDITORIAL S GENERAL OBSERVATION THAT SIGNIFICANCE OF OUR ERA IS THAT WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION NO LONGER MONOPOLY OF GREAT POWERS AND SUCH WEAPONS CAN BE FIRED FROM MANY MILES AWAY.

3. AT SOME LENGTH, FOLLOWING SUGGESTION SOUTH AFRICA TAKE STOCK OF ITS POSITION IN WORLD, EDITORIAL PRESENTS ITS VIEW OF CURRENT U.S. POSTURE AS INDICATOR THAT SOUTH AFRICA CAN NO LONGER EXPECT SUPPORT FROM OUTSIDE WORLD IT HAS RELIED ON IN PAST. BOGEY OF COMMUNIST THREAT HAS BEEN EXPOSED TO AMERICAN PEOPLE, AND USG CANNOT RELY ON SUPPORT OF PEOPLE FOR ACTIONS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES TAKEN UNDER PRETEXT OF FIGHTING COMMUNISM. ERGO, SOUTH AFRICA S POSTURE AS AN ANTI-COMMUNIST BASTION WILL NO LONGER ELICIT AUTOMATIC AMERICAN SUPPORT. MUCH TALKED ABOUT U.S. INVESTMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE INSIGNIFICANT IN RELATION TO INVESTMENTS IN EUROPE. THERFFORE, THEY CANNOT BE COUNTED ON TO FORCE U.S. TO TAKE PRO-SOUTH AFRICA POSITION. AMERICAN PARENTS, LIKE PARENTS ALL OVER WORLD, WILL NOT ALLOW THEIR CHILDREN TO DIE FOR SOUTH AFRICA IN DEFENSE OF RACISM. WILKOWSKI

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